

Library

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1955
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF SPILSBY
IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN - PARTS OF LINDSEY.

C.S.E. Wright, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Toynton Hall,
Spilsby,
Lincs.

July, 1956.

SPILSBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

C.S.E. Wright, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Officer.

W. Bailey, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Officer.

H. Brumfitt, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I., F.F.S.

Clerk.

(Mrs) W. Harness.

SPILSBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Ward and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Spilsby Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

I am pleased to be able to report once again that the general health of the District has been good throughout the year. Except for a wave of measles that lasted during the first nine months and affected mainly the southern part of the area, there was not a great deal in the way of notifiable infectious diseases. The steady improvement in sanitary conditions continued and it is satisfactory to record that in spite of the very dry state of affairs throughout the second half of the year there was no shortage of water in any part of the District.

The year 1955, from a climatic point of view, differed diametrically in its two halves. Up to the middle of June it was cold, wet and sunless, a most depressing spring, but from then onwards it was warm and dry with plenty of sun right up to the end of the year. The good weather brought holiday-makers in greater numbers than ever to our coastal area and the record quantity of caravans and campers strained our health services to the uttermost. In spite of all difficulties there was very little in the way of complaints, I am glad to be able to say, and our workmen, working long hours at the height of the season, are to be congratulated on a job well done.

Given good weather conditions there is every indication that 1956 will show an even greater concentration in our camp site area than in 1955.

The fine and dry summer and autumn was of great benefit to the farming community. Harvest was early and of good quality.

The rainfall at Twentylands for the year was 23.89 inches or an average of 1.99 per month. This compares with 29.77 inches in 1954 (a very wet year) and 22.6 inches for 1953. The main weight of rain was in the first six months.

Throughout the year the work in the Council's Public Health Department was very heavy owing to the increased work involved in the large number of houses that required to be inspected for slum clearance purposes under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. The clearance of really bad properties and the improvement of sub-standard houses is going to be a costly, tedious and sometimes difficult business, but when completed and the whole community is living in houses of good standard and with modern amenities a great step forward towards the health and happiness of the people will have been achieved and the drift to the towns from the country will be lessened.

There were no changes in the staff of the Public Health Department of the Council during 1955.

Vital Statistics.

Area.

The area of the District is 147,530 acres in 69 parishes.

Population.

The Mid-year population is estimated at 24,330.

Density.

The density of the population is .16 persons per acre

Rateable value.

The ratable value in 1955 was £106,435, and the product of a penny rate £431. 18. 10d.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30123719>

Houses.

The number of inhabited houses was 7,662

Births.

The live births numbered 359 and of these 185 were male and 174 were female. The figure of 359 compares with 361 in 1954 and 345 in 1953. 11 of the males and 8 of the females were illegitimate. The total number of live births represents a crude birthrate of 14.75 per thousand of the population. After the application of the comparability factor, which affords a means of adjustment to make allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, a birthrate of 16.37 is obtained. This latter figure compares with 15.0 for the whole of England and Wales.

There were 9 still-births, 4 male and 5 female.

Deaths.

The deaths numbered 357. Of these 175 were male and 182 female. This figure compares with 313 in 1954 and 323 in 1953 and indeed is the highest for many years past. The crude deathrate is 14.67 per thousand of the population and when the comparability factor is applied 11.73. This latter figure compares with 11.7 for the whole country. This death rate is really not a fair index of the number of Spilsby District people who die in the year since patients are sent into the Gables Hospital from far outside our area. These are all old and sick, and when they die, even if that should occur very shortly after admission, they are classed for registration as members of the Spilsby Rural District.

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality, that is the deaths in children under one year of age, was 8. Four of each sex. This figure gives an infant mortality rate of 22.28 per thousand live births. The corresponding figure for the whole of England and Wales was 24.9. Of the eight infants who died five were under four weeks old. One of the eight, a girl, was illegitimate.

Causes of Deaths.

Of the 357 people who died during the year, the following were the causes of their deaths:-

<u>Cause.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Tuberculosis (pulmonary).	-	1
Infective or parasitic disease.	-	1
Cancer of the Stomach.	3	3
Cancer of Lungs or Bronchi.	5	-
Cancer of the Breast.	-	4
Cancer of the Uterus.	-	1
Cancer, other forms.	15	14
Leukaemia.	-	2
Diabetes.	1	2
Vascular diseases of the Nervous system.	21	29
Coronary diseases of the heart, Angina.	34	15
Hypertension with heart disease.	4	-
Other forms of heart disease.	41	54
Other circulatory diseases.	11	10
Pneumonia.	5	9
Bronchitis.	5	1
Other diseases of the respiratory organs.	1	-
Gastritis and Enteritis.	1	1
Disease of the Kidneys.	1	1
Gastric Ulcer.	1	1
Congenital Malformations.	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined causes.	13	23
Motor vehicle accidents.	6	1
All other accidents.	2	6
Suicide.	3	1
Homicide.	-	-
	<u>Total.</u>	<u>182</u>

There was no death from childbirth or any maternal cause.

General Provision of Health Services.

Hospitals, Clinics and Ambulances. These services remain unaltered and are working satisfactorily. It is however to be regretted, as I have mentioned in previous reports, that there is no ambulance centred on Spilsby. I have had complaints on several occasions from medical men to that effect in recent times.

The shortage of beds for the aged and bedridden sick, though not so serious as at one time, is still very much in evidence and this is so in spite of the overcrowding at the Gables Hospital.

Midwifery and Nursing Services. These services are unchanged and have worked satisfactorily throughout the year. Women for their first confinement can, if they wish, and others if home conditions are unsatisfactory or unusual difficulties are likely, be admitted to the Spilsby, Louth or Skegness Hospitals.

Home Help Service. As I mentioned in my last year's report, this important service is slowly being improved in the District but not yet nearly on the scale required. The difficulty is mainly in finding sufficient women of the right type for this sort of work. I hope that it will be possible to extend the scope of this work in the near future. The welfare of the aged sick and of the helpless as well as the overworked housewife when there is sickness in the home is an ever increasing problem. Many of these cases, that now have to be sent to an institution, could be looked after at home if the right kind of help could be found, and this would be to the benefit of the ratepayers pocket as well as the patient.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47. I am glad to be able to report that no compulsory removals under this Act took place during the year.

Laboratory Examinations. These are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln, Grimsby or Boston. A great many samples for Bacteriological examination are sent every year by the Council's Health Department, particularly samples of water, milk and ice cream. This important service is also extensively used by the local medical men. When complete chemical and bacteriological reports on water are required samples are sent to Messrs. W.W. Taylor of Nottingham.

Infectious Diseases. All infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to Boston or Scarthoe Isolation hospitals, except in the cases of Acute Poliomyelitis or Tuberculosis. The former are sent to the Long Leys Isolation Hospital at Lincoln and the latter to whatever hospital is most appropriate to any particular case.

Venereal Disease. Medical men practising in the District tell me that it is rare to see fresh cases of this disease now and no cases were brought to my notice during the year. There is a special clinic for their treatment when necessary.

Prevalence of Disease. There were 472 cases of notifiable diseases reported to me during 1955, but of these 361 were cases of Measles, a trouble that was particularly active in the southern part of the area in the first part of the year. It was of a mild type and was the cause of no deaths.

Throughout the year there were odd cases of Scarlet Fever occurring at various places. 22 cases of this disease were notified; they were all of the very mild type that one sees nowadays and the degree of infectivity appeared to be very low. Scarlet Fever is now a mild disease and no longer holds the dread that it did 50 or 60 years ago, but it should be remembered that Scarlet Fever has gone through the same change before. Towards the end of the last century, Scarlet fever was as mild as it is to-day. Then, later, it returned to its former virulence with its heavy death rate and crippling complications. However, the medical profession is now much better equipped to deal with it, should the dangerous type recur again.

There were 9 cases of Tuberculosis reported during the year. This is the lowest figure for a long while. There was 1 death from this cause. With modern methods of diagnosis, with improved housing and general physical standards and the spread of education, the medical grip on this dreaded disease is steadily tightening. There are still large numbers of new cases reported every year but the death rate is falling steadily.

Acute Poliomyelitis was very active throughout the country in the Summer and Autumn. There were altogether 6 proved cases in the Spilsby District. An outbreak at the Burgh Hall Nurseries was a cause of considerable anxiety. Three proved cases and 5 suspects were isolated. All the other 33 infants were inoculated with Gamma Globulin (human) and this stayed the plague.

There was 1 case of food poisoning. The cause was never proved.

I am glad to be able to report again that there was no Diphtheria during the year. This satisfactory state of affairs is due to the great effort that has been made since 1939 to encourage the immunisation of as many children as possible against this, at one time, so dread disease. In 1939 there were 47,076 cases of Diphtheria notified with 2,130 deaths throughout the country; in 1955 there were 161 notifications and 11 deaths. If 75% of all children were immunised before their first birthday this disease would practically cease to exist.

In the Spilsby District, 176 children under the age of five were immunised during the year and 48 between 5 and 15 years, while 183 received 'booster' doses.

Whooping Cough. 49 cases of this disease were notified to me during the year. I am glad to say that more and more parents are realising the great benefit of Immunisation for this disease also. The protection is generally given at the same time as the immunisation against Diphtheria and the results are very encouraging. During the year 166 children received this protection.

Vaccination. There were 85 primary vaccinations and 13 re-vaccinations against Smallpox during the year. The risk of Small-pox breaking out in this country has considerably increased with the speed of modern traffic and I regret that so many people do not now avail themselves of protection by vaccination.

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable diseases in the Spilsby Rural District throughout the year:-

Scarlet Fever.	22
Whooping Cough.	49
Acute Poliomyelitis	
paralitic.	4
non-paralitic.	2
Measles.	361
Pneumonia.	17
Erysipelas.	3
Tuberculosis	
Pulmonary	8
Non-pulmonary.	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1
Paratyphoid Fever.	2
Meningococcal Infection.	1
Food poisoning.	1
 Total.	 472

Sanitary Conditions of the Area.

Water Supplies.

Regular tests of the water as supplied by the various water undertakings belonging to the Council showed that in all cases the quality continues to be satisfactory. The increased hardness in the water from the Spilsby Sandstone which has been noted during the past few years has continued.

It was a matter of considerable satisfaction that, in spite of the very dry second half of the year, there was no water shortage anywhere in the district.

During the year under review the Council's water undertakings distributed some 157,517,580 gallons of water in their statutory area at an average of 431,555 gallons per day. This figure is over 3,000,000 gallons more than in 1954. The estimated population supplied was 17,154 and the amount recorded averages a consumption of 25.16 gallons per head per day for all purposes.

Of the total volume supplied, 129,034,100 gallons were supplied from the Council's own sources and 28,483,480 by neighbouring Authorities. The latter figure is nearly 6,000,000 gallons less than in 1954.

Approximately 10 miles of distribution mains were laid during 1955 bringing the total length of mains in operation at the close of the year to approximately 218 miles.

During 1955 the village of South Ormsby was serviced from the Brinkhill water supply, and the village of Farlesthorpe received a water supply from Mablethorpe and Sutton Urban District Council.

In my 1954 Annual Report I criticised the unsatisfactory pressure of water in Spilsby and Hundleby, this deficiency was made good during the year by obtaining a supply from the Boston Fordington waterworks.

Housing.

During the year the Council completed 77 new houses, consisting of:-

- (a) 59 three-bedroomed houses.
- (b) 11 two-bedroomed houses.
- (c) 7 aged persons bungalows.

A total of 976 families are now housed by the Council under the following categories:-

(a)	Council Houses (brick)	832
(b)	" " (non-traditional Airy).	40
(c)	" " (" " Prefab.)	60
(d)	" " (" " Swedish)	8
(e)	Dwellings (converted land army hostel.)	10
(f)	Old Council Offices, now 4 flats	4
(g)	Hutments (Camp sites, etc.)	22

During the year 147 families were re-housed by the Council in the following categories:-

1.	Families removed from overcrowded or sublets.	25
2.	Families removed from houses classified in category 4 of the Housing Rural Survey.	27
3.	Families removed from houses classified in category 5 of the Housing Rural Survey.	18
4.	Families rehoused from hutment camping sites.	17
5.	Families rehoused other than above.	60

There are still 19 families housed in the Royal Air Force hutments at Great Steeping. Of these only 7 are in Site 4. These are unsatisfactory huts and I hope this site will be finally closed during 1956 as has been done to Site 5. The rest are in the old W.A.A.F. Site. These hutments are of a better type and are to be improved to stop dampness.

During the year 33 houses and bungalows were erected in the Spilsby district by private enterprise.

Improvement Grants. There has been, I am pleased to be able to report, a considerable advance in the number of applications for grants submitted. Altogether 165 grants were applied for and 163 approved. 111 improvements were completed during the year. These figures are almost twice those for 1954.

The total grants approved amounted to £44,745, representing an average grant of £247. 4. Od per house.

By means of these grants, the installation of bathrooms, lavatories, stair-cases, extra accommodation, hot-water systems, etc., has proved a great boon in improving amenities to sub-standard houses, and has been much appreciated. I am hoping for still further extension of these grants in the coming year.

In accordance with the instruction of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government the campaign against slum and poor class property was resumed. The war had interrupted the steady progress that was being made and Local Authorities were once again instructed in 1955 to review the housing conditions in their districts.

Under this heading 1,819 houses in Categories 4 and 5 of the Housing Rural Survey were re-inspected. Of this figure, 521 were provisionally scheduled as being incapable of being brought up to a good standard at a reasonable expense, and 1298 were classed as houses which should be improved.

It was noticeable that a large proportion of the 521 houses classed for ultimate demolition were occupied by old people and many of these were anxious that they should not be turned out during their lifetime, as they were used to, and satisfied with, the conditions. It was also noticeable, on the contrary, that where such houses were occupied by young people, there was an almost unanimous wish for better conditions. It is the intention of the Council that, as far as possible, the old people shall be given every consideration.

As I said in my report last year, this slum clearance and re-housing of the population where necessary is going to be a long, difficult and costly business, but when completed a great step forward will have been taken towards the health, comfort and happiness of the people, and this will be an encouragement in rural districts for the workers to stay on the land.

The greatest problem, perhaps, in this connection is that of the re-housing and welfare of the steadily increasing proportion of old people. The Spilsby Rural District Council plans to house the elderly in composite dwellings in the villages; these will be situated near the centre of the villages, and close to the Church, Chapel, shop, public-house, etc., where the residents will see and take an interest in the surrounding life.

Each composite dwelling will accommodate up to six couples, and will have the services of a Warden who will be housed nearby. Under one roof, there will be a common lounge with an open fire, a laundry, bathroom, a guest room and modern conveniences, and each couple will have separate living accommodation.

It is envisaged that the village community as a whole will take a special interest in the welfare of their old people living in these composite dwellings, who, in turn, will be able to do something useful for the life of the village and thus preserve, what is so very important, their own sense of independence and respect.

Camping Sites.

Partly because it is less expensive, and partly because it has caught the public fancy, the vogue for caravan holidays continues in full spate. During the summer months our coastal area north of the Skegness boundary becomes one vast camping ground. A very different condition of affairs from even ten years ago.

The caravans, tents, etc., contain people of all ages and social grades and if the weather is good, as it was in 1955, do provide an excellent relaxation for those who like this type of holiday. They also provide many difficult problems for the health department of the Council.

During the year 8 fresh sites were licensed. Altogether there were 85 licensed camping grounds, for 3272 two-wheeled caravans. Some of these camping grounds hold up to 300 caravans with an estimated population of 1200 or more. The figure of 3272 does not include Butlins vast permanent camp that holds, at the height of the season, between 8,000 and 9,000 people including the staff.

All camp sites have to be provided with water supplies, scavenging services and sewage disposal facilities, and the Council's Officers and workmen have to put in many hours overtime to cope satisfactorily with the conditions.

The majority of site owners take a pride in keeping their camp up to a good standard, and it is a pleasure to assist them to do so; but there are still a few who, without constant supervision, would let their area become untidy and the ground foul and offensive to their neighbours. In the same way most visitors do their best to live up to a high standard of camping life, but there are always some who to save themselves trouble, and knowing that they are shortly leaving, allow their own area to get filthy and foul the neighbouring dykes with waste water, tea leaves, food refuse etc.

The greatest difficulty for the Health Department is in the matter of drainage and the treatment of the effluent at the various camps, owing to the vast amount of water that is used and the nature of the soil. Many of the

camps have septic tanks for sewage disposal with overflow pipes in the ground, and these cannot cope with the immense amount of liquid waste from water closets, wash basins and urinals etc., situated in the camps. Such is the nature of the geological formation in the coastal area that there is a high water level and the camping grounds are surrounded, in most cases, by dykes. The main drains are held up and the dykes gradually become polluted by septic tank effluent filtration made worse by some tenants throwing their waste liquid and rubbish into the dykes. Warning notices appear to be of no consequence, human nature being what it is.

At some camps night soil collection takes place from bucket closets twice weekly, and it is a matter of congratulation to receive intimation from the Camp Owners Association that the public health services in 1955 were most satisfactory and very much appreciated.

For health reasons it is most desirable and essential that this densely populated camping area, particularly at Ingoldmells and Chapel St. Leonards should have a modern drainage scheme. Until the camp areas at present outside the Ministry's approved zone for the laying of sewers to the main sewage disposal plant are brought into the general sewerage scheme, we cannot be free from trouble from the miles of potentially offensive dykes.

During the year 18 informal notices were served on various camp site owners to abate serious nuisances arising from the condition of the dykes.

All the indications are that in 1956 there will be an even greater number of caravans on our coast than in the year under consideration.

Scavenging Services.

Throughout the whole district refuse collection takes place in all 69 parishes. There is a once weekly collection in 7 built-up parishes, namely, Spilsby, Hundley, Wainfleet All Saints, Hogsthorpe, Burgh-le-Marsh, Ingoldmells and Chapel St. Leonards. In the remaining parishes the refuse is collected once in every three weeks in the winter months, and once every two weeks in the remainder of the year.

In a widely scattered rural area such as this, it is essential for the saving of expense to have as many tips as possible. These should be positioned at convenient places for the removal of refuse from the nearby villages. Such spots are not easy to find now, particularly in the marsh and fen areas.

In 1955 refuse tips were in use at Spilsby, Burgh-le-Marsh, Hogsthorpe, Friskney, Ulceby, Bilsby, New Bolingbroke, Langrick and Wainfleet All Saints.

Unfortunately there is still too much combustible material put in the bins on the camp sites. From occasional visits and observation it is estimated that the bins on camp sites hold about 85% paper contents. When one considers that at the height of the season there may be upwards of 3,500 ashbins on these camping grounds one realises the immense costs involved in scavenging services in order that these sites may be kept clean and tidy and that the health of the community on them is protected.

At Hogsthorpe we have continued to bury refuse. Each year a huge trench is excavated and when full the top soil is replaced to cover the refuse. This method though somewhat costly is eminently very satisfactory. In accordance with Council's instructions the burning of rubbish has ceased at the Hogsthorpe tip.

Night Soil Collection.

Night soil collection takes place at Spilsby, Wainfleet All Saints, Wainfleet St. Mary, Anderby, Chapel St. Leonards, Hogsthorpe, Burgh and Ingoldmells, in addition to various school premises in other parishes.

Our chief worry is to ensure that the numerous pail closets in the coastal parishes are emptied regularly during the summer season. During the holidays two cesspool vehicles are fully engaged and the Council gives a service of two collections each week at Anderby, Chapel St. Leonards and Ingoldmells.

Sewerage.

It is a matter of concern to the Council that progress in our sewerage schemes is so slow. Undoubtedly the curtailment of capital expenditure, as a result of instructions from the Chancellor of the Exchequer for economy, has resulted in many of our schemes being delayed.

Ingoldmells.

There has been unavoidable delay due to many factors and whilst we all hoped that works would proceed this year the scheme has not yet gone to tender, despite every effort on behalf of the Council. On public health grounds and for proper development of this coastal resort it is an urgent matter that a sewerage scheme for Ingoldmells should be proceeded with.

Spilsby and Hundleby.

The present No.2 filter bed requires renewing. The Council's Consulting Engineers are considering a scheme to include Halton Holgate village, Raithby Road, Hundleby, and Ashby Road, Spilsby, to be linked with the Spilsby and Hundleby Sewerage scheme.

Burgh-le-Marsh.

Negotiations for land required for disposal works, and pumping station sites have held up progress.

The present sewage works are outdated, and it is impossible to discharge a satisfactory effluent.

East Kirkby.

A scheme for the village is under consideration.

Chapel St. Leonards and Hogsthorpe.

The scheme, long envisaged and urgently needed, started at the beginning of the year. Considerable progress was made in the laying of the sewers, pumping stations and sewage disposal works. It is hoped that these works will be completed in 1956. I regret that it was not found possible to include the camping site area in Chapel St. Leonards in this scheme.

Stickney.

The sewage disposal works was completed and the sewers in Horbling Lane laid in accordance with the scheme approved by the Ministry. This is the first stage and it is hoped that in the near future the remaining part of the scheme for the whole village, involving pumping stations, will be completed although in fairness Burgh-le-Marsh and Wainfleet should receive priority.

Anderby Creek.

This scheme has been approved for some time, but the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has not yet allotted a starting date. The progress of this scheme, particularly to overcome the nuisance on the south of Anderby Creek, is urgent.

Candlesby.

Many dwellings do not have sufficient land to provide septic tanks, and this retards progress towards better amenities such as the provision of bathrooms, water closets, etc. A scheme is being considered to use the existing main drain to serve all properties by gravitation to a sewage disposal plant situate on a suitable site.

Slaughterhouses.

The slaughterhouses re-licensed in 1954 were, in the main, managed quite satisfactorily during the year, and butchers found to be keeping up a good standard and living up to their obligations.

It is to be regretted that with slaughterhouses scattered all over the district it was found impossible for the Sanitary Officers to find time to inspect all carcases. It is estimated that approximately 50% of bovines and 30% of pigs carcases and organs were inspected.

Clean Food.

The clean food campaign continued throughout the year but the work of the Sanitary Officers in this direction was unavoidably curtailed by the heavy increase in duties in housing and slaughterhouses.

Bakchouses, cafes, holiday camp kitchens, snack bars etc., on inspection have been found in most cases to be satisfactory, and in few cases has co-operation been lacking to improve conditions when faults that have been found have been pointed out.

As anticipated new powers to control unsatisfactory conditions in catering establishments and stalls will be coming into force on 1st January, 1956, under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. These Regulations are such as have been advocated by health authorities for some years, and will do much to diminish the incidence of cases of food poisoning which has so markedly increased in recent years. It is hoped that the general public will co-operate with the Health Authorities in this matter by bringing to their notice unsatisfactory conditions found in the preparation and distribution of food.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning in the Spilsby Rural District during the year. There was one isolated case probably due to eating infected brawn.

Ice-cream.

No. of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.	2
No. of premises registered for the sale of ice cream.	92
No. of new premises registered during the year.	9

The great majority of retailers of ice cream sell only the pre-wrapped variety, made by one or other of the big wholesale firms under excellent conditions and this practice is encouraged.

Offensive Trades.

There are no premises coming under this Category in our district.

Condemned Food.

During the year the following food was destroyed as unfit for human consumption:-

Bovines.

3 carcases	1571 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
12 part carcases	426 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
1 calf	

Sheep and lambs.

2 carcases	200 lb.
1 part carcase	47 lb.

Pigs.

3 carcases	270 lb.
2 part carcases	88 lb.

Sundry Foods.

Chilled beef	283 lb.
Bacon	234 lb.
Poultry	2 head.

Tinned Goods.

Corned beef.	1	tin
Rhubarb.	2	
Tomatoes	21	
Milk	15	
Luncheon meat	6	
Raspberries	16	
Pilchards	2	
Peas	5	
Peaches	4	
Beans	4	
Blackberries	1	
Plums	1	
Apricots	1	
Carrots	7	
Salad	4	
Steak	1	

Rodent Control.

Modern methods of rat control have so improved that if we had the complete co-operation of the public in this matter the almost total extermination of these pests would be only a question of time.

	Dwelling houses.	Agricultural premises.	All other including business and industrial premises.
a. Inspections.	2213	367	352
b. Treatments			
(rats) major	1	3	1
minor	79	79	29
(mice) major	-	-	-
minor	4	-	-

Salvage.

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Baled paper and cardboard.	35.	13.	0.	282.	16.	2.
Books & Magazines.	22.	3.	1.	206.	3.	2.
Fibreboard containers.	32.	14.	3.	320.	15.	6.
Newspapers.	29.	3.	1.	323.	7.	0.
	119.	14.	1.	1,133.	1.	10.
Mixed scrap iron, metal, rags and bottles.				53.	19.	6.
				1,187.	1.	4.

Finally may I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Council for the active interest they have taken in public health work and also in particular the members of the staff for the immense amount of loyal work they have put in during the year in maintaining and improving the efficiency of the health services of the Spilsby Rural District.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Mrs Ward and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. Wragg

M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Report of work done by Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year 1955.

HOUSING.

Total number of new houses erected during the year:-				100
(1)	By the Local Authority.	...	...	67
(11)	By other Local Authorities.	...	...	-
(111)	By other bodies or persons.	...	...	33

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

(i) Return of Proposals in accordance with Part I of the Act and Circular 55/54. See attached.

(ii) No. of certificates of disrepair issued following application by tenants served with rent increase notices (Section 26). Nil.

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts. 1717.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 2020

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers. 374

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 4

(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) by owners ... 3 (b) by local authority in default of owners ... -

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 3

(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) by owners ... 3 (b) by local authority in default of owners ... -

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

(2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. -

(3) No. of dwelling houses subject to undertakings or Closing Orders. 6

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -

(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit. -

(e) Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26:-

(1) No. of Clearance Orders made ...
(2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance thereof.

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	25
(11) Number of persons concerned in such cases.	142
(b) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	}
(11) Number of families dwelling therein	...
(111) Number of persons dwelling therein	...

Housing Act, 1949.

(a) No. of applications for grants received ... 165
 (b) No. of grants made 163 (in respect of 181 houses)
 (c) No. of applications for grants made by Local Authority. -

<u>Moveable dwellings</u>	{	No. of site licences	...	...	85
		No. of individual licences	...		4
<u>Tents, Vans, etc.</u>	{	Total number of caravans permitted under licence			3272
	{	No. of inspections during year - Sites			237
			- Dwellings		4000
	{	No. of contraventions remedied.	...		28

FOOD PREMISES.

{ No. in district.	...	...	35
{ No. of inspections	...	...	74
{ No. of contraventions	...	...	1
{ Defects remedied	...	...	1

{ No. of distributors on register.						
Sterilised.	-	Past.	-	T.T.	3.	N/D.
{ No. of samples of milk taken in course of delivery (other than biological)						28.
Sterilised.	-	Past.	-	T.T.	-	N/D.
{ No. of samples satisfactory						
Sterilised.	-	Past.	-	T.T.	-	N/D.
{ No. of inspections of dairy premises.						42
Contraventions remedied.				...		-

Meat Products.	No. of premises registered for manufacture of meat products.	...	...	19
	No. of inspections made	...	...	95
	No. of contraventions found	...	...	8
	-do-	remedied	...	8

Other Food Premises.	{	No. of inspections.	...	...	52
		No. of contraventions found	...	...	-
		-do-	remedied	...	-

UNsound food.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	N O T	K N O W N.			
Number inspected.	336	1	16	148	387
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	1	2	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	8	-	-	1	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned.	3	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	-	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-

Method of disposal of condemned food (1) burial under supervision or (2) dog kennels.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Closets.	{ No. of houses with privy vaults in district.	2301
	{ No. of houses with pail closets in district.	2980
	{ No. of houses with water-closets in district.	2655
	{ No. of water-closets substituted for pail closets and privy vaults. ...	-
Cesspools and Septic tanks.	{ No. of cesspools and septic tanks emptied, cleansed etc.	478
	{ No. of cesspools and septic tanks abolished.	2
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.	{ Details of areas or villages where provision has been made of new sewers or where existing sewerage arrangements improved.	Works in progress at Hogsthorpe and Chapel St. Leonards.
	{ Details of areas or villages where provision has been made of new sewage disposal facilities or existing arrangements improved.	Spilsby - new filtering media at one filter bed.
	{ Any part of district urgently requiring public sewers and/or treatment works for public health reasons.	Wainfleet All Saints and Burgh-le-Marsh - inadequate treatment. Both sewage works out of date.

Water Supplies.	{ Area supplied - Parishes supplied by water mains other than mains belonging to Spilsby Rural District Council - Burgh-le-Marsh, Orby, Welton-le-Marsh, Gunby, Candlesby, Bilsby, Well, Markby, Sibsey, Langton, Frithville, Carrington, Old Bolingbroke, Mavis Enderby and parts of Raithby, Sausthorpe and West Fen.		
	{ Parishes supplied by Spilsby Rural District Council water mains - Spilsby, Addlethorpe, Anderby, Bratoft, Brinkhill, Chapel St. Leonards, Croft, Cumberworth, East Keal, East Kirkby, Eastville, Firsby, Friskney, Great Steeping, Hagnaby, Halton Holgate, Hogsthorpe, Hundleby, Huttoft, Ingoldmells, Irby, Little Steeping, Midville, Mumby, New Leake, Partney, Stickford, Stickney, Thorpe St. Peter, Toynton All Saints, Toynton St. Peter, Ulceby, Wainfleet All Saints, Wainfleet St. Mary, West Keal, Willoughby-with-Slothby, South Ormsby, and parts of Raithby, Sausthorpe, West Fen and Old Bolingbroke.		
	Percentage of houses supplied - Burgh 80%, Orby 35%, Gunby 23%, Welton 55% and Candlesby 40%.		
	No. of houses supplied from public mains - in house standpipe/tap		
	No. of houses supplied from private sources - in house	...	Not known.
	not in house	...	-do-
	New sources of supply - public	...	Nil
	-do- - private	,,.	Nil
	No. of public supplies closed as (i) polluted (ii) other reasons.		Nil
	Any part requiring a public supply or the replacement of a public supply for public health reasons.	...	-
	No. of samples taken for chemical examination:-		
	from public supplies - satisfactory	6	
	- unsatisfactory	-	
	from private supplies - satisfactory	112	
	- unsatisfactory	-	
	No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination:-		
	from public supplies ... C1.I. 129. C1.II. 49. C1.III. 13 C1.IV. 15		
	from private supplies ... C1.I. 1. C1.II. 2. C1.III. 2 C1.IV. 9		
Swimming pools.	{ No. of public swimming pools in operation.		
	{ No. fitted with continuous mechanical filtration and chlorination.	...	2
	{ No. of samples of swimming pool water taken for bacteriological examination (a) satisfactory (b) Not satisfactory.		-
<u>GENERAL.</u>			
Offensive Trades.	{ No. of premises in district.	...	-
	{ No. of inspections ...	...	-
	{ Contraventions remedied.	...	-
Knackers Yards	{ No. licensed.	...	-
	{ No. of inspections ...	...	-
	{ Contraventions remedied	...	-
Shops Act, 1950.	{ Number of shops inspected.	...	-
	{ Contraventions remedied.	...	-
Disinfection, etc.	{ Rooms disinfected : (a) ordinary infectious disease (b) tuberculosis.		32
	{ No. of premises disinfected	...	8
	{		33

Refuse
Collection
and
Disposal.

	Parishes served by scavenging scheme -
	Spilsby, Wainfleet All Saints, Burgh-le-Marsh, Chapel St.
	Leonards, Hogsthorpe, Ingoldmells, Anderby, Bilsby, Partney, Stickford, Stickney, East Kirkby, New Bolingbroke, Friskney, Wainfleet St. Mary, Addlethorpe, Welton-le-Marsh, Orby, Eastville, New Leake, Toynton All Saints, East Keal, Mumby, Hundleby, Huttoft, Sibsey, Great Steeping, Willoughby, Little Steeping, Firsby, Candlesby, Croft, Brinkhill, Irby, Gunby, Scremby, Skendleby, Ashby, Halton, Toynton St. Peter, Old Bolingbroke, Raithby, West Keal, West Fen, Frithville, Midville, Bratoft, Hagnaby, Aswardby, Ulceby, Thorpe St. Peter, Thornton-le-Fen, South Ormsby, Rigsby, Markby, Langton, Calceby, Carrington, Claxby, Cumberworth, Dalby, Diby, Farlesthorpe, Hareby, Harrington, Langriville, Mavis Enderby, Sausthorpe, Westville and Well.
	How frequently is refuse removed from each house?
	Once weekly in the parishes of Spilsby, Wainfleet All Saints, Burgh-le-Marsh, Chapel St. Leonards, Hogsthorpe, Ingoldmells, Hundleby, and the remaining 62 parishes, once every three weeks in the winter and once every two weeks for the remainder of the year.
	Method of disposal.
	(a) Open controlled tipping. (b) Trench controlled tipping.
	Is this satisfactory?
	Yes.
	Is collection by Local Authority or contract.
	Local Authority.

Nuisances.

	Total number of nuisances during year:-
	(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector. 284
	(2) Reported to Council - Statutory notice issued. -
	Statutory notice not issued. -

Details of Nuisances abated.

	After informal intimation.	After statutory notice.
(Smoke	-	-
(Accumulation of refuse.	-	-
(Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water.	18	-
(Fowls, pigs and other animals.	-	-
(Housing:- (included in section on Page 1 as defects remedied under Public Health Acts.	648	-
Dampness	-	-
Dangerous Premises.	-	-
Drainage	256	-
Other	-	-
(Miscellaneous Nuisances.	10	-
(No. of rodent operatives employed.	1	
(No. of premises treated:-		
(a) dwelling houses.	...	110
(b) other premises.	...	186
(Are there any serious reservoirs of rats in district.	...	No.

Appendix A.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

Return of Proposals in accordance with Part I of the Act and Circular 55/54.

Total number of permanent dwellings in the local authority's area. 7662.

PART I The total problem

(i) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under section 11 or section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936. 508

(ii) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i). 7 - 10 years.

PART 2. Orders already made etc.

(iii) Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the local authority. Nil.

(iv) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative. Nil.

PART 3. Action in the first five years

(v) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years 35

(vi) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance order or a compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister. -

(vii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation. Nil.

(viii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years. 35

(ix) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. 250 (approx.).

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	M/C line No. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of Inspect- ions. (3)	Number of Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers prosecuted. (5)	M/C line No. (6)	M/C line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	22	14	-	-	-	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	100	23	-	-	-	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total		122	37	-	-	-	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	M/C line No. (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found.			No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instit- uted.			M/C line No. (8)
		Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspec- tor. (4)	By H.M. Inspect- or. (5)	(6)	(7)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	1	1	-	-	1	-	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable tempera- ture (S.3).	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.)	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)								
(a) Insufficient.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
(c) Not separate for sexes.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total	60	1	1	-	-	1	-	60

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111).

NIL.

